

Yeltsin wants Gorbachev to quit

MOSCOW (AP) — Boris N. Yeltsin made a nationally televised appeal Tuesday for the resignation of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, accusing him of sacrificing reforms in a drive for personal power and dictatorship. The attack, the sharpest by the president of the Russian Republic in months, seemed certain to exacerbate the personal enmity between the two men and to rekindle the Soviet political crisis. "I warned in 1987 that Gorbachev has in his character a tendency to a dictatorship, giving it a present name: presidential rule," said Mr. Yeltsin. "He has done all that and has led the country to a dictatorship, giving it a present name: presidential rule." Mr. Yeltsin said that his biggest mistake since becoming president of the Russian Federation parliament in May 1990 was placing too much trust in Mr. Gorbachev's promises of economic and political reform. The heart of Mr. Yeltsin's argument was that power should be shifted from the central government, led by Mr. Gorbachev, to the 15 Soviet republics. Mr. Yeltsin is president of the parliament of the Russian Federation, which includes more than half of the Soviet population and most of its natural resources.

Volume 16 Number 4631

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1991, SH'ABAN 5, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

Iran appeals to allies for time

TEHRAN (R) — Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani appealed to U.S.-led allies Tuesday to delay a ground offensive so Iraq could be persuaded to quit Kuwait through diplomatic efforts. The appeal, relayed through Turkish President Turgut Ozal, was reported just after U.S. President George Bush appeared to dismiss an 11-hour Soviet peace plan as inadequate — making a ground war increasingly likely. "With regards to hopes that have appeared for ending the war, all-out efforts should be made to materialize Iraq's proposal for pullout of its forces from Kuwait," the Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Mr. Rafsanjani as telling Mr. Ozal by telephone. "He also expressed hope that the Turkish president would do all within his power to encourage the U.S.-led forces to show self-restraint regarding their intended ground offensive so that Baghdad could be persuaded to take practical steps," it said.

Moscow rejects Bush reaction to peace plan

Soviets state firm stand against allied ground assault

Combined agency dispatches

SOVIET FOREIGN Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh Tuesday dismissed U.S. president George Bush's approach to a Kremlin plan to end the Gulf war.

"That plan was addressed to the Iraqi leadership, so he rejected the plan which did not belong to him," Mr. Bessmertnykh told reporters.

Mr. Bush said Tuesday the plan "falls well short of what would be required." He said he had talked to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev about the proposal "and I've been frank with him."

British Prime Minister John Major also said Tuesday that he saw nothing in the peace plan that warranted a ceasefire or pause in the Gulf war.

Mr. Bessmertnykh said he did not consider Mr. Bush's reaction to the plan to be rejection. The foreign minister made the remarks to reporters after speaking to the Supreme Soviet legislature about the Gorbachev peace offer. He refused to disclose the points of the plan.

The proposal was presented to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein through his foreign minister, Tareq Aziz. Mr. Bessmertnykh said, Mr. Aziz was expected to return to Moscow with Iran's response as soon as Wednesday. Mr. Bessmertnykh added.

Mr. Bessmertnykh said an allied ground offensive would "treacherously complicate" the Soviet-led peace process, if it occurred before the Kremlin received a response from Baghdad.

A U.S. military official in Washington said that a ground attack could begin at any time.

In his speech to lawmakers, Mr. Bessmertnykh said the situation was "too delicate" to reveal the contents of the plan to them.

Mr. Gorbachev gave the secret peace plan to Mr. Aziz Monday during a 3½ hour Kremlin meeting.

Offering an initial chilly reaction to the Soviet proposal while he posed for photographs at the start of a meeting with congressional leaders, Mr. Bush said he was "not going to give" in talks on Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait.

The president said he had told Gorbachev of his views, adding "Very candidly... and I've been frank with him on this, while expressing appreciation for his sending it (the Soviet peace proposal) to us, it falls well short of what would be required."

"I would leave it right there for now," Mr. Bush said, declining to

answer questions from reporters.

He glanced down at notes as he spoke, suggesting he had anticipated this question and had a reply couched in the language he wanted.

Emerging from the meeting with Mr. Bush, House of Representatives Speaker Thomas Foley, a Washington Democrat, said Mr. Bush did not elaborate on the specific nature of his objections during his discussions with congressional leaders.

Mr. Foley said Mr. Bush merely indicated that "there were some aspects that fell short."

But representative John Murtha, a Pennsylvania Democrat, said he thought Mr. Bush was cool to the Soviet proposal because he did not want allied forces to lose momentum in their war effort.

"I don't think he's dismissing it, I think he's being very cautious," said Mr. Murtha, who just returned from a visit to U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia. "He doesn't want negotiations to stall it (the war.)"

"It would be in my mind disastrous now if we were to pause and let Saddam Hussein rehabilitate himself."

Mr. Foley said the president did not give any timetable for the long-awaited allied invasion.

White House officials insisted there would be no change in the strategy of the allied war effort.

"The war goes on," presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters after speaking to the Supreme Soviet legislature about the Gorbachev peace offer. He refused to disclose the points of the plan.

The proposal was presented to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein through his foreign minister, Tareq Aziz. Mr. Bessmertnykh said, Mr. Aziz was expected to return to Moscow with Iran's response as soon as Wednesday. Mr. Bessmertnykh added.

Mr. Bessmertnykh said an allied ground offensive would "treacherously complicate" the Soviet-led peace process, if it occurred before the Kremlin received a response from Baghdad.

A U.S. military official in Washington said that a ground attack could begin at any time.

In his speech to lawmakers, Mr. Bessmertnykh said the situation was "too delicate" to reveal the contents of the plan to them.

Mr. Gorbachev gave the secret peace plan to Mr. Aziz Monday during a 3½ hour Kremlin meeting.

Offering an initial chilly reaction to the Soviet proposal while he posed for photographs at the start of a meeting with congressional leaders, Mr. Bush said he was "not going to give" in talks on Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait.

The president said he had told Gorbachev of his views, adding "Very candidly... and I've been frank with him on this, while expressing appreciation for his sending it (the Soviet peace proposal) to us, it falls well short of what would be required."

"I would leave it right there for now," Mr. Bush said, declining to

(Continued on page 3)

Israel reports missile attack

TEL AVIV (AP) — A single missile fired from western Iraq struck in Israel Tuesday, but apparently caused no casualties, the army said.

Chief army spokesman Nachman Shai gave no details on where the missile hit. "So far we have no reports of injuries or damage," he said.

Reporters in Tel Aviv said they heard sounds indicating at least two U.S.-supplied Patriot air-defence missiles were fired. They also heard a third explosion they could not immediately identify.

Brigadier General Shai would not comment on whether patriots were fired under standing army policy.

Warning sirens sounded throughout Israel at 7:55 p.m. (1755 GMT), indicating a possible Iraqi missile attack. Israelis are ordered to don gas masks and enter sealed rooms during the alerts because of Iraqi threats to use chemical weapons.

Most regions of the country were quickly freed from the alert, indicating there was no sign of a chemical warhead. The last area freed was central Israel and parts of the occupied West Bank.

It was the 36th Scud missile fired at Israel since the start of the Gulf war on Jan. 17.

All of the attacks have involved conventional warheads.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 10,000 apartments have been damaged or destroyed.

The last attack, involving two Scuds, was Saturday. Both landed without causing damage or casualties.

Two people have been killed and 230 wounded in the previous attacks. An additional 11 deaths were blamed on heart attacks or misuse of gas masks. More than 1

Soviet military condemns Bush, criticises NATO

MOSCOW (R) — One of the Soviet Union's top military figures said Tuesday U.S. President George Bush's decision to go to war against Iraq showed he was devoted to old-style use of force to solve world problems.

At the same time, the Defence Ministry newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda said the West's NATO alliance had seized on the Gulf conflict to build up its forces in the region to an extent that could threaten the overall East-West disarmament process.

"I am sure ... that this war should never have been started,"

Marshal Viktor Kulikov, one-time commander-in-chief of the former East bloc's Warsaw pact alliance, told the newspaper Rabochaya Tribuna.

"Peaceful forms of pressure should have been continued and dialogue should have been pursued, which is what our diplomats and President Mikhail Gorbachev argued for. A victory after that would have been something new and desirable."

"But the language of guns and death-dealing B-52 bombers is something we have been familiar with for a long time. It has

nothing in common with the 'new thinking' which the Americans applauded warmly but did little concrete to support."

Marshal Kulikov, now a senior adviser in the Defence Ministry and a member of the Soviet parliament, added: "And in that one can say Bush has lost to Gorbachev totally. Bush has remained, as it turns out, a devoted follower of old thinking."

His criticism of the U.S. was the latest in a series from military and political figures around Mr. Gorbachev.

It appeared a day after Mr.

Gorbachev presented Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz with a peace plan which Soviet officials said they hoped could head off a bloody land offensive.

The position of the Soviet Union remains unequivocal," said Marshal Kulikov. "We are for an immediate end to this war and for a solution of the problem by political means. Gorbachev's talks with Aziz are another clear confirmation of that."

"I think it is now up to those abroad, who so fervently supported 'new thinking' in words," he added.

Krasnaya Zvezda said that despite NATO's denial it was clear that the alliance — now the only effective military bloc in Europe — had coordinated preparations for the Gulf war.

"It must also be noted that the Gulf crisis had brought the resurgence in NATO of supporters of a build-up of the bloc's military might," the Defence Ministry organ said.

"Simultaneously additional measures are being planned for the modernisation of the armed forces and the improvement of the military infrastructure of the

bloc in Southern Europe and the rendering of military aid to the countries of this region."

Krasnaya Zvezda declared: "It is also alarming that, according to reports, work on programmes for reducing force strengths and armaments in NATO committees has been suspended."

"Unfortunately, it can be stated that this reaction of NATO to the crisis in the Gulf could well put in doubt all that has been achieved in the sphere of disarmament on the continent of Europe and in the world at large."

Iraqi Red Crescent chief appeals for food, medicine

BAGHDAD. (AP) — The chief of the Iraqi Red Crescent Society appealed Tuesday for food and medical supplies, he said are urgently needed to overcome severe shortages.

Mr. Nouri said the U.N. embargo against Iraq has sharply curtailed imports of essential medical supplies, although U.N. officials say medicine is supposed to be exempt from the sanctions.

On Monday, the International Red Cross said it had sent 35 tons of medical supplies to Iraq through Iran since the outbreak of war Jan. 17.

"Angelo Gnaedinger, the Red Cross' representative for the Middle East and North Africa, told Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency that the volume of supplies could be increased according to need."

The Red Crescent, also distributes charitable contributions of food sent to Iraq by sympathetic organisations abroad.

Medical officials say hot weather in a few weeks would greatly increase the risk of disease.

He said Iraq will probably need doctors and nurses from foreign countries to help Iraqi medical staff in hospitals. Medical teams from Algeria, Mauritania, Jordan and Palestine already are helping in Baghdad hospitals.

"We try to deal with all these problems, but I must admit that we are in dire need of help," he said.

Mr. Nouri said his society has received some 100 tons of medic-

Sheikh Sabah: No talks with Iraq even after pullout

ABU DHABI (AP) — Kuwait's foreign minister says his government will not negotiate with Iraq even after its forces leave Kuwait, according to a newspaper report Tuesday.

"We will not hold talks or negotiations after withdrawal, neither with the present nor with a new Iraqi leadership," Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad said in a statement published by Al Ittihad, a state-run newspaper in the United Arab Emirates.

"We have agreements with Iraq which must be implemented and Kuwait will not negotiate with Iraq after the Iraqi troop withdrawal," he said.

But the minister insisted on Iraqi reparations for destruction sustained in the invasion and occupation of his country. He gave no figures. Kuwait reportedly will need some \$60 billion to rehabilitate the country if and when liberated."

The hardline stance contradicts previous statements by leaders of the Kuwaiti government-in-exile indicating they were prepared to

Wife of Siad Barre in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — The wife of deposed Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre has arrived in Cairo with 28 members of her family, the Somali embassy and airport sources said Tuesday. The mass-circulation Egyptian newspaper Al Akbar said she was granted political asylum. Foreign Ministry officials said there was no information of such a move. Airport sources said Mrs. Siad Barre arrived on an Egyptian flight from Nairobi Monday. "Yes, they have arrived and that is the truth, no one can hide it," a Somalian embassy official said. Mr. Siad Barre was overthrown last month and his whereabouts are unknown.

Ozal wants Saddam toppled

By Alistair Lyon

Reuter

ANKARA — Turkish leader Turgut Ozal, urging the downfall of the Iraqi government, said President Saddam Hussein's "back should be broken" to shorten the Gulf war.

Turkey had let U.S. planes bomb Iraq from its territory to help remove a "potential threat from a dangerous neighbour," Mr. Ozal told businessmen in Adana, near the southern Incirlik airbase.

"The removal of regimes so dangerous for us is to our benefit ... that is why we gave (the Americans use of) Incirlik," he said.

"To let the war end as soon as possible, the man's back should be broken, not that of his people. If the war is prolonged, his people's back will also be broken," said Mr. Ozal.

In typically blunt style, Mr. Ozal defended his Gulf crisis decisions as marking a radical foreign policy departure which would earn Turkey a place at the post-war negotiating table.

The Turkish president, who often talks by telephone with U.S. President George Bush, said he doubted whether the United States would allow the Iraqi government to survive.

"Maybe the Soviet Union wants him (President Saddam) to live on, but the U.S. president that I know will not let go so easily. After all the expense and troop deployment he will not leave without achieving a result. It is not correct politically either."

"What I mean by result is that I

discuss disputes with Baghdad after the Iraqis pulled out from Kuwait.

Arab leaders allied with Kuwait have often stressed that disputes could be settled after the withdrawal through negotiations within an Arab, Islamic or international framework.

Officials at Sheikh Sabah's office in Taif, current base for the Kuwaiti government-in-exile, told the Associated Press they would check with him for confirmation of the published statement and respond back.

The statement would preclude negotiations on demarcation of borders, including the two islands of Warba and Bubiyan, or Iraqi demands for compensation of oil Kuwait allegedly pumped from the Rumailah field straddling the border.

Sheikh Sabah's statement appeared to rule out any future talk on two islands. Kuwaiti sources said his reference to previous agreement which marked Warba and Bubiyan islands as Kuwaiti.

Iraq says London blast shows civil war in 'evil empire'

NICOSIA (R) — Iraq said Tuesday the bombing of two London railway stations showed civil war was raging in the degenerate "evil empire" of Britain.

The Irish Republican Army (IRA) acknowledged responsibility for the bombs that killed one person and wounded 43 Monday.

"These explosions were not isolated actions... they were among the acts of defiance and resistance which the secret IRA has been carrying out regularly against British institutions and centres in revenge and protest for the British occupation of Northern Ireland," Baghdad Radio said.

The capital of imperialism, evil and aggression — London — has been turned into an arena of confrontation, explosions and acts of violence," said the radio.

It said the two blasts showed that the government of Prime Minister John Major was in a "shaky position," unable to maintain security or solve national problems by democratic means.

The radio noted that the explosions occurred less than two weeks after the Feb. 7 Iraq mortar attack on Mr. Major's official residence at 10 Downing Street.



WAY HOME: A family leaving the Gulf war zone have food at a transit camp in Jordan (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Israel hopes to borrow \$1b to help 'absorption'

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel hopes to borrow \$1 billion, using the credit lines of Jewish groups in the United States and Canada, to help absorb thousands of Soviet immigrants, the quasi-governmental Jewish Agency announced Monday.

Mendel Kaplan, the agency's board chairman, told a news conference the agency would ask North American chapters of the Council of Jewish Federations to guarantee the loan.

The radio noted that the funds, in turn, will be loaned out to Soviet immigrants at concessionary rates, he said.

Mr. Kaplan said the idea was "to make the maximum amount of funds available from the diaspora" to resettle up to one million Soviets over the next several years. Some \$2.5 billion also is being sought in "operation exodus" fund-raising appeals, he said.

Soon after the invasion of Kuwait, Turkey cut two Iraqi oil export pipelines across its territory, halted trade with Iraq, a major trading partner and sent more troops to the southeast.

Turkey, a secular state with an overwhelmingly Muslim population, sent no troops to Saudi Arabia, but allowed U.S. bombers to use Incirlik from the second day of the war.

Iraq protested at what it called unjustified aggression, but has not retaliated militarily. This month Ankara asked Baghdad to withdraw 23 diplomats and other officials. Arab diplomats said the 23 Iraqis and 85 family members had left a week ago.

"God willing, when the peace table is set up we shall have a bigger say in proportion to the role we have played," Mr. Ozal said.

Speaking of himself, he added: "Al-Shar will be courageous when this is needed to advance Turkey. All this is calculation."

"During this war Turkey has emerged as an advanced country. Formerly we did not have an individualistic foreign policy. We have changed this radically," Mr. Ozal said.

Speaking of himself, he added: "Al-Shar will be courageous when this is needed to advance Turkey. All this is calculation."

loans to cover part of the cost of resettlement, rather than getting it all as a grant.

Michael Kleiner, chairman of the parliament's absorption committee, said the move by the Jewish Agency could reduce the number of Soviet Jews willing to come to Israel.

"It reminds me of the story of the Jew who wanted to force his mule to eat less and less food," Mr. Kleiner said. "one day the mule died and the Jew said, what a pity. I had almost succeeded in getting him to eat nothing at all."

Absorption Minister Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz said cuts in benefits for immigrants were cutting the number of arrivals, along with the war in the Gulf.

The pace of immigration has slowed in the first six weeks this year to less than half the rate of 1990. The estimate of Jews arriving this year has been cut from 100,000 to 300,000.

Mr. Kaplan argued that new ways of raising money must be found to cover the estimated \$10

billion cost of absorbing one million Soviets.

He added that he did not believe immigration would be affected by the style of funding but "rather the conditions in the Soviet Union."

The agency's loan plan comes after the government already has cut the allowance a newly arrived family receives from \$21,000 shekels (\$10,500) to 14,000 shekels (\$7,000) in the past year.

The Jewish Agency had proposed some 38 per cent of the total as a grant. It now would make about 42 per cent available but as a loan, Mr. Kaplan said.

He said the exact terms of the loan had not yet been worked out, but said it would require no repayments for the first three years.

The agency will continue to cover all of an immigrant's transportation costs to Israel.

The increase in Soviet immigration from about 12,500 in 1989 to nearly 136,000 last year has strained financing.

U.S. flights to stop refuelling in India

NEW DELHI (R) — After days of confusion, India announced Tuesday that U.S. military transport planes would no longer refuel in the country on their way to and from the Gulf.

Political sources said Mr. Shekhar had caused much of the confusion over whether or not refuelling of the U.S. planes, which officials said carried only non-lethal supplies, would be allowed to continue.

After Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party, which keeps him in power, announced it would withdraw support if refuelling continued, Mr. Shekhar was quoted as saying Sunday he had already ordered it stopped.

On Monday, suggesting he had been misquoted, Mr. Shekhar said planes were still refuelling. Later the same day, he said he had not ordered a halt, but refuelling had stopped. But witnesses reported seeing American transports at Bombay and Madras.

U.S. embassy spokesmen were not immediately available for comment, but diplomatic sources said it appeared Washington had bowed to Indian pressure.

"India is by far and away the most convenient place for refuelling,"

and Washington would not agree to this unless it absolutely had to," said one senior diplomat.

Mr. Shekhar himself caused much of the confusion over whether or not refuelling of the U.S. planes, which officials said carried only non-lethal supplies, would be allowed to continue.

Congress, other parties and newspapers were outraged by the refuelling, arguing that it breached India's long-standing commitment to non-alignment.

The rage intensified as more and more politicians and newspapers spoke out against the massive air war waged by U.S.-led forces against Iraq and accused the allies of going beyond United Nations resolutions authorising force.

Mr. Shekhar's government has never explained why it allowed scores of U.S. transports to refuel in India since Jan. 9 at a time when domestic flights were cut back to conserve aviation fuel.

Political sources said Mr. Shekhar had to halt refuelling if he hoped to retain Congress support in the next session of parliament opening Thursday during which he is likely to be challenged.

The couple, who have two children, came to Sri Lanka soon after Ahmad was kidnapped in August last year. Ahmad's wife had reported him missing last week, Mr. Fernando said.

Improved hopes hostages will be freed

BEIRUT (R) — A senior Shi'ite Muslim cleric said Tuesday the Gulf war improved hopes of freedom for Western hostages held by pro-Iranians in Lebanon. "The Gulf events have created a positive atmosphere for the hostages. We expect a better hope for their release," Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddine, the vice-president of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council in Lebanon, told a news conference.

There are six Americans, three Britons, two Germans and an Italian kidnapped in Lebanon. Most are believed to be held by members of the pro-Iranian Hizbullah (Party of God). The group denies any involvement in hostage-taking.

Iraqi murdered in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (AP) — The body of a 31-year-old Iraqi man was found in a village near Colombo five days after he was stabbed to death, police said Tuesday. Police Inspector Rohan Fernando said the body of Shafin Ahmad was found Monday in a field near Wanduramulla village, 22 kilometers southeast of Colombo. He said there was no political motive in the killing. "We are holding two men as murder suspects and have recovered the weapon. We think it is related to a robbery but are not sure as yet," the inspector said. He said the two suspects belonged to the village but refused to identify them further.

The couple, who have two children, came to Sri Lanka soon after Ahmad was kidnapped in August last year. Ahmad's wife had reported him missing last week, Mr. Fernando said.

3 wounded by mine explosion in Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Two Lebanese soldiers and a civilian were wounded Tuesday when a land mine exploded in a divided village in South Lebanon, security sources said. They said the mine was apparently set off by an army bulldozer clearing a road in Mikhil, a former battlefield on the edge of an Israeli-declared "security zone" in the south. The mine-clearing operation is in preparation for Lebanese troops to deploy in the shattered village, half of which is held by militants of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA). Some 3,000 troops moved into the south two weeks ago while Palestinian and Lebanese guerrillas withdrew as part of a plan to extend the government's authority over all of Lebanon.

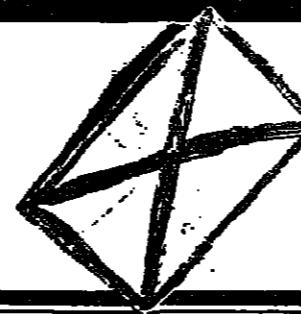
JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr (Sunrise) Dhuhr
Maghrib
Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swieifieh,
Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632



UNICEF, WHO send medical supplies to Iraq

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Health Organisation (WHO) Friday sent a shipment of \$10,000 worth of medical supplies to help about three million people in Iraq.

The medical supplies include pediatric and other essential drugs, oral rehydration salts and medical equipment, according to UNICEF. It is the first known international mission to visit Baghdad since the outbreak of the Gulf war on Jan. 17. Jordanian officials said some truck loads of medicine and food stuffs arrived in Baghdad Monday.

In a statement announcing the mission, U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said, "the spirit of such medical supplies could be within the spirit of the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 1949, the U.N. convention on the Rights of the Child and the declaration of the World Summit on Children of September 1990."

The seven-member team, who left via Iran with 54 tonnes of supplies "are also aiming to ascertain essential health care needs of the civilian population and to implement a programme suitable to the situation in Iraq," Niger Fisher, UNICEF's deputy regional director told the Jordan Times.

The mission, which left for Baghdad in 12 loaded trucks, consists of specialists to evaluate the drug supply, trauma in children, water and sanitation supply logistics as well as an epidemiologist. Fisher said.

The leaders of the team: Richard Reid, regional director of UNICEF, and Dr. Ali Khogali, director of the WHO, "have remained in Baghdad to hold talks with the Iraqi minister of health and to look at water and health facilities in detail," according to Fisher. UNICEF is especially concerned about the Tigris River as Iraqi citizens use it for drinking and washing their clothes at the same time. "The river is highly polluted," Fisher said.

Fisher added that while the two team leaders are in Iraq, "depend-

ing on their assessment of the situation, they will develop a broader programme."

The mission was greatly assisted by the government of Iran and by the Iranian Red Crescent Society, who cleared the shipment through the Islamic Republic and provided transport to the Iraqi border, according to Fisher, who was in Iran supervising the shipment. At the border, the mission and convoy were met by senior Iraqi officials while medical supplies were transferred to trucks of the Red Crescent Society of Iraq, he added.

UNICEF, who in November sent a small shipment of medical supplies to Iraq, "is also hoping to send another similar shipment in the coming few weeks," Fisher told the Jordan Times. "When the two leaders return from Iraq, they will report their findings and recommendations to the head offices in New York," he added.

According to UNICEF, there will be a meeting of humanitarian aid agencies to look at the results of the mission and see what programme is to be followed in Iraq.

The game of manipulation brought to trial in a debate

By Saeda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Was there really a genuine effort on the part of the media (Western and Arab) to achieve objectivity in their coverage of the Gulf war? How much of the truth did their reporting unveil? Or was the whole exercise simply a game for the manipulation of peoples' emotions, desires and fears?

Journalists representing the foreign and local media attempted, in a two-hour debate, to respond to these questions, trying to explain their points of view.

The discussion, heated at times, took place Tuesday evening at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC). It began with the Arab side accusing Western journalists of not being objective and of failing to understand the Arab mind.

Ziyad Al Rifai, a professor of journalism at Yarmouk University, charged that U.S. President George Bush was censoring the media by blocking access to information. He said the American government had fears of repeating the media role during the Vietnam war, and that journalists, on the other hand, were not objecting.

Rifai criticised Western journalists for not attempting to understand Arab culture which basically differed in the sort of words they use, and how they commented and elaborated on them without fully understanding the significance of these words in the Arabic language and how they may differ on other languages.

This, Rifai said, was attributed

to the language barrier and to the lack of professional interpreters in the country who could translate the significance of the words, not their transliterate meaning.

Mahmoud Al Sharif, chief editor of Al Dustour Arabic daily newspaper, explained the effect of the cultural gap between Arabs and Westerners and voiced strong objection to the way Western media manipulated information. "Facts have been twisted in a very wicked way to justify an unjustifiable war," he said.

"Foreign journalists have a problem of conscience," he added. "Was there really a desire to go deeper to know the reason behind the bitter, frustrated and wounded attitude?"

John Donovan, ABC correspondent, explained that Arabs are not capable to look "eye for eye," and even if the Americans heard the argument they may not be convinced. "They may still have the same conclusion." He criticised the freedom of the press in Arab countries in comparison with Israel where journalists enjoy free access to information.

Correspondent Peter Humi said that Arabs were supporting Saddam Hussein only because they were frustrated because their problems have not been solved. "They have chosen the wrong leader, the wrong time at the very wrong moment."

However, the prolonged debate seemed to emphasise more, on the part of the Arabs, on the role of the media, accusing it of being shallow and the root cause of all problems.

Mustafa Hamarneh, however,

concluded the discussion by portraying the whole situation on both parts: "We are being patriotic on both sides while the fundamental problem remains: how can we get to the root of all problems in the region which are threatening us? We (Arabs) are partly guilty in this aspect as portraying this war as a crusade while it is not."

Ministry of Labour plans strict measures to cut unemployment

By Mamdooh Hawamdeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Ministry of Labour has embarked on practical serious measures designed to attract non-Jordanians workers to the local job seekers in a bid to solve the problem of unemployment in the country, according to our Minister Abdul Karim Al Dughmi.

These measures, he said, were in implementation of new directives the government which was to find work for job seekers in all available sectors.

Addressing a meeting of the Secretary General of the Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions, Halim Khaddam, and the union's executive committee, Dughmi said that 1991

would be the year for the big change of the existing situation, with more and more local workers taking the jobs still filled by foreigners in every sector.

Ministry teams would launch strict inspection tours to ensure that the non-Jordanians were being employed in jobs for which they had originally been imported and reports by these teams would serve as a basis for future renewal of work permits for all non-Jordanians in the country, Dughmi noted.

The minister warned that each non-Jordanian working illegally in the country would be asked to leave within two weeks from the date of being informed by the ministry's decision and the ministry would study means of effective measures to prevent such persons from coming back.

GUVS asks U.N. to press for ceasefire

By Odeh Odeh
Special to the Jordan Times

N — A five member delegation from the General Union of Trade Societies (GUTS) in headed by Fakhri Billah Tuesday presented the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Resident Representative Ali Atia a memorandum addressed to the U.N. General Javier Perez de

in the Gulf and to arrange for initiating dialogue to solve regional problems capitalising on Iraq's peaceful initiative.

The memorandum called for a halt in hostilities by putting an end to the sufferings of the Palestinian people, and implementing the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

The memorandum said the rejection by the American President George Bush of Iraq's recent initiative for establishing peace in the region exposes the ill intentions harboured by the U.N.-led alliance against Iraq and uncovers

the genuine dimensions of the brutal aggression against Iraq's peaceful initiative.

The memorandum called for a halt in hostilities by putting an end to the sufferings of the Palestinian people, and implementing the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

It noted that Jordan is suffering as a result of the economic blockade, political pressures and the Israeli threats.

Israel allows more Palestinians to cross to occupied territories

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Israeli authorities started allowing 400 Palestinians to cross the King Hussein and Prince Mohammad bridges on the River Jordan on a daily basis as of Wednesday on their way back to the occupied Arab territories according to an announcement by the Public Security Department (PSD).

An announcement which said that 200 would be allowed across each of the bridges, followed long delay imposed by the Israelis on travellers to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip over the past four weeks.

Thousands of Palestinians have been stranded in Jordan after leaving Kuwait and other Gulf countries due to the ban imposed by Israel for what it said was security reasons following the imposition of a blanket curfew on the occupied territories.

The Department of Palestinian Affairs at the foreign ministry said that around 5,000 Palestinians, most of them penniless and homeless, were affected by the ban. The department said that it was holding intensive contacts with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the United Nations Truce Supervi-

sion Organisation to ensure their return to their homeland.

Rabeb Amer from the Department of Palestinian Affairs said in a statement Monday that at least 30 Palestinians have lost their residency permits due to the delay, and that meant they can no longer go back to the occupied home-land.

These Palestinians have been issued these permits by the Israeli authorities upon leaving the occupied territories, and once the permits expire, their holders can no longer go back home, Amer said in his statement.

Representatives of the stranded Palestinians staged two protest marches in Amman during this month, one of which was held Monday, during which the protesters marched to the ICRC and United Nations offices in Amman demanding that they be allowed to return.

Normally, the Israelis allow more than 1,000 persons to cross into the West Bank every day by this time of the year, rising to more than 3,000 during the summer; but they have reduced the number in the past four weeks to less than 50 a day.

RJ resumes flights to Jeddah, Abu Dhabi

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN (J.T.) — Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national air carrier, is resuming its flights to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) after a break of nearly four weeks, but the insurance surcharges imposed on RJ, as well as other airlines operating in the areas would remain until the situation in the Gulf region is improved.

RJ president and chief executive officer, Husam Abu Ghazaleh, told the Jordan Times that RJ would operate a weekly flight to Abu Dhabi in the UAE as of Thursday, Feb. 21, and hopefully another flight to Jeddah in Saudi Arabia next Tuesday.

However, more flights could be arranged to the two destinations depending on the volume of passengers and also on the general situation in the region, Abu Ghazaleh said.

Before the Gulf war, RJ used to operate daily flights to the two countries but had to curtail its flights and to stop them altogether later in the light of the hostilities which broke out in the Gulf region, RJ officials noted.

According to an RJ announcement Tuesday, special teams are now working out flight schedules for RJ planes to give exact dates for further flights to the two destinations.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ planes resumed their flights to Muscat in Oman on Feb. 3 at the rate of one flight a week. RJ has been flying to North African and European destinations as well as to New York despite the Gulf war.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However, a ban on Jordanian truckers carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis.

Abu Ghazaleh said that RJ was doing everything in its power to offer the best services to passengers and to maintain Jordan's valid return entry visas.

However

Gorbachev adds new doubt to war timing

By Jim Wolf
Reuter



Mikhail Gorbachev
1977, said it was very difficult to maintain a state of top readiness indefinitely.

WASHINGTON — The Gulf tides are right for an amphibious landing. The next few nights are moonless — well-suited to heighten the allied advantage over Iraq in high-tech night-fighting gear.

U.S. and allied forces are said to be as ready as they ever will be to launch what could be the largest land battle since World War II.

And some experts say they could lose their edge if the offensive were delayed for a week or more because favourable weather will have eroded by then.

But Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev added a new twist on Monday that could affect whether and when the troops are ordered into action — an element that may be irksome to President George Bush.

With U.S.-led forces poised to attack Iraqi troops in Kuwait, Gorbachev gave new proposals to Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz to head off the looming ground war. Details were not immediately disclosed, but a Soviet spokesman said Moscow expected a "tally without delay."

The White House quickly made clear on Monday that its hopes for forcing Iraq from Kuwait rested on war — and that it was doubtful the Soviet peace plan would avert the ground phase.

"All of our hopes at this point are on the conflict — in the air and on the ground in terms of pushing Iraq out of Kuwait," Spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said in Kennebunkport, Maine, where Bush was spending a holiday weekend.

Asked whether the timing of a land offensive might be delayed to see where the Soviet plan leads, Fitzwater said: "I wouldn't make any assumptions."

The Gorbachev proposal left Bush with a series of delicate problems. One of these is avoiding an appearance of rushing into a potentially bloody battle when a diplomatic option was available.

Against this and other considerations, including concern for Soviet support, Bush must balance a host of military and strategic considerations.

One is that the U.S. and allied troops who have been streaming north towards the Saudi-Kuwaiti border in recent days, could be jarred and left off balance by the delay.

Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. defense secretary from 1975 to

Aziz

(Continued from page 1)

"...The surprises will be unleashed and then it will be impossible to stop a series of horrible surprises," it said.

Iraq has previously threatened to use chemical weapons in the war. So far its missiles aimed at Israel and Saudi Arabia have been armed with conventional explosives.

Baghdad Radio said President Saddam chaired a meeting of top aides Tuesday at which the agricultural situation in the country was discussed, the radio reported. Mr. Aziz did not attend the meeting.

The radio said in a brief report that Agriculture Minister Abdul Wahab Al Sabagh was among those present. Some members of

Jordan's image in the Western media: wrong themes that have to go

By Serene Halasa

THE WESTERN media habitually loves themes. First, it does everything possible to construct them. Then, it is a never-ending process to harp on them.

For one reason or another, the theme in which Jordan has been held captive by the Western media for the past six and a half months is one which portrays it as a weak kingdom, sandwiched between an enemy neighbour, Israel, and an old aggressive ally, Iraq.

Ever since the Gulf crisis erupted on Aug. 2, Jordan has been made to be part of one or more of basically two sub-themes. The first portrays Jordan as taking a pro-Iraq stand in order to satisfy a large Palestinian majority, and the various Jordanian fundamentalist movements. The second is that the Kingdom has been pressured by the Iraqi government to take this position.

One vivid example of the way Jordan is depicted in the Western media those days is an article which appeared in last week's Newsweek magazine.

entitled "All unquiet on the western front, Saddam is trying to draw Jordan into the conflict." In that article, the writer, Christopher Dickey, portrays Jordan as a helpless little kingdom, and its monarch, as a leader pressured from within by certain groups and "influential fundamentalist leaders," who "fervently support Saddam."

Well, I think, I speak on behalf of a majority of Jordanians when I say that the kind of pressure Jordan is under is not one from within, but an external one. This external pressure exerted on Jordan is unlike the one Dickey describes in his article as coming from Iraq, but one coming from another nation, the United States of America. Mr. Dickey might know this, although he does not say it in his article.

The U.S. he might recall, has exerted all kinds of pressure on Jordan since the onset of the crisis in order to bring the Kingdom and its monarch in the anti-Iraqi camp. Pressures ranged from political to economic, to other forms. For example, when the United Nations issued a resolution en-

forcing a trade embargo and sanctions against Iraq, Jordan indirectly fell victim to this resolution. American war ships stationed near the Tiran Straits in the Red Sea, claiming to monitor Jordan's compliance with the U.N. mandate, kept turning back, and harassing Jordan-bound vessels. This enforcement, further hampered the already weakened Jordanian economy. Although the American administration admitted more than once Jordan's compliance with the U.N. resolutions, the harassment never stopped.

Pressure by the U.S. on Jordan mounted after the start of the Gulf war on Jan. 17. Civilian cars, and oil tankers were targeted on the only civilian highway linking Jordan with Iraq, killing many Jordanian citizens. The American administration, in an effort to justify these attacks on Jordan, claimed that Jordan was violating the U.N. embargo, disregarding the fact that Jordan had made an arrangement with the U.N. sanctions committee to import oil from Iraq, until another alternative source was found. Jordan has now started to import oil from Syria, but

unfortunately the bombing of civilian targets has not ceased.

When the King "spoke with conviction about the suffering of the Iraqi people, but failed to mention either Kuwait or Saddam Hussein," the United States "responded with a review of aid to Jordan and the threat of a possible cut." This new pressure, exerted by the U.S. on the Kingdom of Jordan for its perceived pro-Iraqi stand, proves that the country trying to draw Jordan into the conflict is not Iraq, but is the United States. When the King made his speech, he made it with a deep conviction stemming from the conscience of an Arab leader who does not look kindly upon the suffering and targeting of Arab people, and the destruction of a fellow Arab country. Mr. Dickey might want to know that the only pressure that His Majesty was under is one reflecting his duty as a world leader, seeking peace, and not the destruction of this region.

"For the moment the King feels no direct pressure from Iraq to enter the fight. 'None at all' he says," writes Mr. Dickey in his article in an apparent contradiction to the

thrust of his article, which is that Jordan is pressured by Iraq to enter the war.

Militarily, Jordan's best defense may be the allied bombers clearing Iraq's western desert of everything that moves. Mr. Dickey also writes in his article. Well again I think I speak on behalf of many Jordanians when I say that we Jordanians would rather ourselves fight and defend our country than have U.S. planes bombing our citizens in order to protect us from Iraq.

In the article, Mr. Dickey claims that Jordan is the closest front Saddam has to Israel, which he desperately hopes to draw into the conflict." Again I would like to remind Mr. Dickey that facts speak louder than words. I believe that Iraq has done a pretty good job so far. It has repeatedly and successfully launched missile attacks against Israel without having to cross Jordanian territories. But if his argument extends further to include an awaited Israeli retaliation against the multiple Iraqi missile attacks on its ter-

The writer is on the staff of the *Jordan Times*.

Israel-U.S. dispute over Palestinians re-emerges

By Jack Redden
Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — The strains in Israeli-American relations obscured by the Gulf crisis have re-emerged, showing the two countries in basic disagreement over solving the Palestinian problem.

The issue was at the heart of their relations before Iraq invaded Kuwait last Aug. 2. It resurfaced after an attack on U.S. policy last week by Israeli Ambassador to Washington Zalman Shoval, followed immediately by a stinging American rebuff.

The argument was over Washington's refusal to release \$400 million in loan guarantees until Israel provides more details of its plans for settling Israelis on occupied land. But that is only a small part of the overall dispute.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir last year foiled U.S. efforts to end the conflict over the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip but Washington has promised to return to the issue after the Gulf war.

In anticipation, Shamir's government has been adopting hardline positions that will complicate any peace effort.

This month Shamir expanded his ruling coalition by adding the two-man Moledet Party, an openly anti-Arab party considered the most extreme in parliament.

While the United States talks about arrangements for regional security Shamir talks about new understanding of Israel's distrust of its neighbours and need to remain strong.

Last Friday, Shamir said he wanted an Israel stretching from the Mediterranean to the Jordan River — incorporating the occupied lands where 1.75

million Palestinians have been fighting for independence for the past 38 months.

"This is my personal belief and my dream," Shamir said of his position in peace talks.

Opposition members of parliament said last week the gov-

ernment planned to build 12,000 new homes in the West Bank in the next three years. They said 1,000 mobile homes would be moved into the area.

It would add at least 50,000 Israelis to the West Bank and that does not include a vast

building programme in Arab East Jerusalem, captured in the same 1967 war as the Gaza Strip and West Bank. Most countries including the United States do not recognise the annexation of East Jerusalem.

Israeli settlement in the occu-

pied territories goes to the heart of the disagreement with Washington. The latest building plans formed the backdrop for last week's diplomatic explosion.

Washington, which considers settlement in the territories an obstacle to peace, had demand-

ded details of housing plans before giving the \$400 million in loan guarantees to house Soviet Jewish immigrants.

Israeli spending in the occupied territories is hard to unravel, appearing in items such as military construction that provides roads or subsidies to farmers. A year ago government money was secretly channeled to buy Christian property in Jerusalem's old city.

The credibility of Israeli information, which Washington already appeared to doubt, was not helped by last week's revelation of housing plans not disclosed even to the Israeli public.

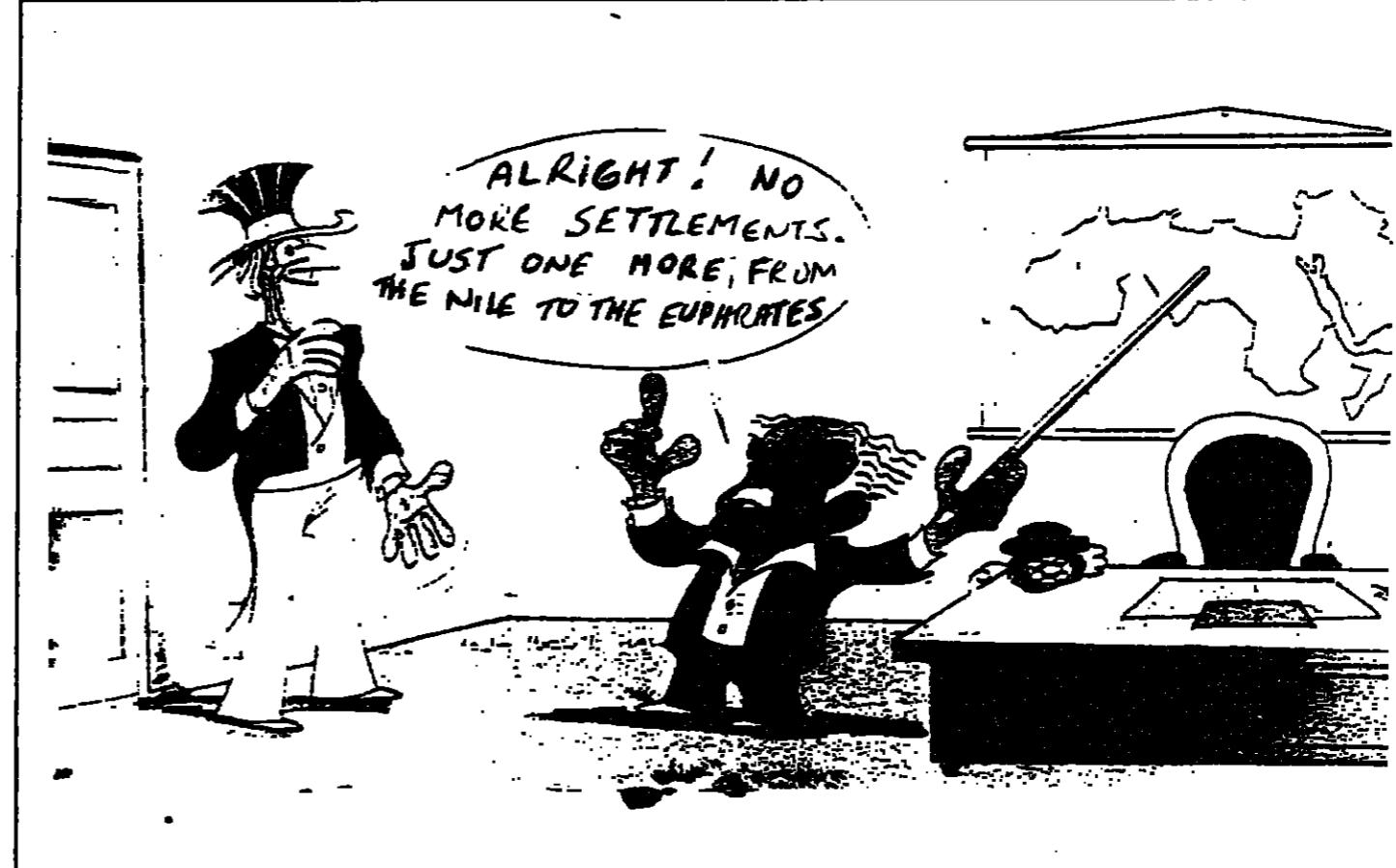
Israel's apparent readiness to battle Washington could not come at a worse time for the Jewish state. Last month it suggested the United States provide \$10 billion in aid to settle the million Soviet immigrants expected by 1993.

Shoval demanded Washington compensate Israel for Gulf war losses, such as the collapse of tourism and higher oil prices. He complained Israel has "not received one cent of aid."

That must have touched a raw nerve in a capital risking lives and spending billions of dollars to fight Israel's most formidable Arab enemy. Washington defends Israeli cities with U.S.-manned Patriot missile and gives annual grants of \$3 billion.

Perhaps Israel was convinced the international praise it won by not retaliating for Iraqi missile attacks — which could have disrupted the U.S.-led coalition in the Gulf — guaranteed a strong bargaining position after the war.

But Israeli anxiety over the \$400 million in loans shows that Shamir's government understands the extent of U.S. financial leverage — and fears Washington will use it.



JORDAN MARKET PLACE

THE PROFESSIONALS
ALWAYS CHOOSE
THE RELIABLE

PACKING, AIR FREIGHT
FORWARDING, DOOR-TO-DOOR
SERVICES AND
DELIVERIES, CUSTOMS
CLEARANCE, TICKETS
AND, RESERVATIONS.

AMIN KAWAR & SONS
TEL: 604676 604696
P.O. BOX 7806
AMMAN

CROWN INT'L EST.

packing, shipping,
forwarding, storage,
clearing, door-to-door
service

Agents all over the world
Tel: 604696 Fax: 604692
P.O. Box 22026 BEIRUT CO. JO
P.O. Box 526487
AMMAN JORDAN

STUDIO HAIG
Professional Quality in
1 Hour Service
Develop your colour film at
our shop and get:

- **JUMBO photo**
size 30% larger
- **Free enlargement** 20 x 30 cm

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays Bank. Phone: 604042
Swefach tel: 823891

EASTERN
DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICES.
INTERNATIONAL FORWARDING,
AIR & SEA FREIGHT.

TEL: 621775 FAX: 626270
POB: 615408
Amman - Jordan

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO RENT IN WEST AMMAN

CALL SOHA AT

Saudi Real Estate
687821/22

Ricardo

Amman's exclusive gift shop
Italian shoes, leather goods, perfumes, lighters, watches, pens, silverware, porcelain, crystalware etc.

Shmeisani - Grindlays Bank Bldg.
Tel: 669 457

**For the best
for your
MONEY...
ADVERTISE
in the**

RESTAURANT CHINA
The first & best
Chinese Restaurant
in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabel Amman, near
Ahlyah Girls School

Take away is available
Open daily 12:00-3:30
p.m.
6:30-Midnight

Tel: 638966

PEKING RESTAURANT
Mecca Street, Yarmouk
Engineers' Housing
Estates, near Kilo
Supermarket

AUTHENTIC CHINESE
CUISINE
elegant
colorful atmosphere
moderate prices

Mongolian Barbecue for
Lunch Friday only
Tel: 818214

Come and taste our
specialties

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30
p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

Kashmir Restaurant
FIRST CLASS INDIAN
RESTAURANT

Special Executive Luncheons

Take away service
available

Open Daily 12:30-3:30 pm
7:30-11:30 pm

After the Philadelphia Hotel
Towards 3rd circle

Tel: 659519 659520

PRESS CENTER Facilities

The First Class Hotel in
Amman that has a
Kitchenette in every
room!!!

DAROTEL
داروتيل

Amman - Tel: 668193
P.O. Box 9403 - Fax 602434
Tel: 23888 DAROTEL
Ideal Residence For
Expatriates and
Businessmen

Jordan Times

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Sports

Sampdoria aiming high

By Reuter

SAMPDORIA. The new clear leaders of the Italian soccer first division, have set their sights high for the rest of the season.

The Genoa team face a hectic few weeks of league, Italian Cup and European Cup Winners' Cup matches, but striker Roberto Mancini believes they can ride it out.

Speaking before Sampdoria's Italian Cup quarter-final second-leg tie against Torino Tuesday, Mancini said:

"You could say that being a mature side means that we ought to be able to abandon one competition and concentrate on another."

"But Sampdoria are not made like that, we want to win everything, league title, Cup Winners' Cup and Italian Cup."

Sampdoria coach Vujadin Boskov, whose team lost their first-leg 1-0, was expected to wait until shortly before kick-off before naming his team after a string of injuries in Sunday's 1-0 home win against Juventus.

Juventus hope to atone for that defeat in their quarter-final tie at home against Roma Wednesday. Juventus will be defending a 1-1 scoreline from the first leg.

AC Milan, Sampdoria's championship rivals, can afford the luxury of fielding a reserve side in

their quarter-final tie against Bari Wednesday. AC Milan defend a 1-0 lead at their own San Siro Stadium.

Milan coach Arrigo Sacchi will rest his Dutch trio, Frank Rijkaard, Ruud Gullit and Marco Van Basten, five other first team players plus captain Franco Baresi will also have the day off.

Baresi dislocated his shoulder in Sunday's 3-1 win over Lazio and could be out for more than two weeks, making him a doubtful starter for AC Milan's European Cup home tie against Marseille on March 6.

Napoli travel to Bologna for Wednesday's fourth quarter-final, one goal down and once again unsettled by the long-running saga surrounding captain Diego Maradona. The Argentine said this week he would soon retire from the game.

In Spain, Atletico Madrid's Portuguese star Paulo Futre was quoted Tuesday as saying he was not interested in leaving the Spanish team despite a reported offer from Juventus.

"I am very happy in Madrid and so far I am planning to finish my career abroad with Atletico," he told the AS Sports newspaper.

"Over my possible transfer, I can't say anything because this has to be resolved between (Atletico chairman) Jesus Gil and the Italians."

"The thought of Italy doesn't keep me awake at night."

Maradona to retire this year

ROME (R). — Argentine captain Diego Maradona, under investigation for possible links with a vice-ring, says he will give up soccer and leave Naples at the end of the season.

Following recent allegations of involvement in a drugs and prostitution racket in the city, Maradona repeated on Italian television Tuesday his intention to retire from soccer at the end of the season.

Maradona, whose contract at Italian champions Napoli expires in 1993, suggested the accusations were the result of a vendetta against him and designed to take

attention off Naples' problems by focusing on his alleged misdeeds.

Naples public prosecutor Vittorio Sordone said last week Maradona was being investigated on suspicion that he may have asked for drugs and prostitutes from the Camorra, the local mafia.

The stocky midfielder said he had been framed and denied ever using drugs.

Platini to risk Cantona in crucial tie

PARIS (R). — French team boss Michel Platini indicated Monday he would play Eric Cantona in Wednesday's European Championship qualifier with Spain even though the striker has played just 47 minutes of soccer in three months.

Cantona, the "enfant terrible" of French soccer, has only just recovered from a knee injury sustained in late October and his Marseille club have sent him on only briefly as substitute in two

recent league matches.

But Platini is clearly anxious to play the gifted forward in Paris alongside his club mate Jean-Pierre Papin.

That would re-unite a deadly striking partnership which has been at the heart of a French run of success during which the side has remained unbeaten for almost two years.

"The side has been in place for two years and has not been losing. My inclination is to keep it," said

Platini. "The main question was to know whether Eric had completely recovered physically. Now we are sure he has."

"From my point of view, he is 100 per cent. I am not running a big risk by playing him."

France lead Group 1 with maximum points from three matches and would take a big stride towards the European Championship finals in Sweden next year if they beat Spain.

Soviet official calls Klimova drug test a mistake

MOSCOW (AP). — A Soviet sports official said Tuesday a drug test that ice dance figure skating champion Marina Klimova failed last week at the European Championships in Sofia, Bulgaria, "was a mistake."

Vasily Gromyko, a deputy sports minister, also said at a news conference that the test in Sofia in late January was flawed.

"The Sofia anti-doping laboratory is not accredited at the IOC Medical Commission."

"Istvan Sugar, a judge from Hungary, was appointed the head of testing commission in Sofia, but he had no official right for that," Gromyko said.

He added that a Bulgarian doctor sealed the urine sample used in the test, and said only an International Skating Union (ISU) representative is autho-

rised for that.

"A crude violation of the confidential character of the analysis was committed in making public its result."

ISU General-Secretary Beat Haesler said on Feb. 12 that analysis of the initial urine sample from Klimova, who won the European ice dance title with husband-partner Sergei Ponomarenko, suggested steroid use.

Results of the second test were

expected this week. If the second test is positive, Klimova and Ponomarenko would be stripped of their European title, won during the week-long ban from the sport, including the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville, France.

Klimova, who attended the Soviet news conference, said she "was stunned" when she heard the news.

"I cherish my hopes that justice will triumph," she said.

Natalia Dubova, a leading Soviet coach, ridiculed drugs usage by figure skaters in dance events and said it is "an absurd mistake of Bulgarian drug control."

Olympic champion Alexander Gorshkov said Klimova and

Portugal seeks convincing win over Malta

OPORTO, Portugal (R). — Portugal are anxious to make amends for their poor performance in Malta 10 days ago when they took on the tiny island nation in their return European Soccer Championship qualifying match Wednesday.

Bottom-of-the-table Heerenveen have taken Romanian striker Rodion Camataru on loan from Belgian first division side Charleroi.

But Camataru, who has some 70 caps, will only be able to play for Heerenveen if he gets a work permit. Brazilian striker Marcus Jose Rodriguez and Soviet players Merab Jordania and Vaja Ivania have all been denied permits to play for the club since the beginning of the season.

"In Greece we played well and so far I am planning to finish my career abroad with Atletico," he told the AS Sports newspaper.

"Over my possible transfer, I can't say anything because this has to be resolved between (Atletico chairman) Jesus Gil and the Italians."

"The thought of Italy doesn't keep me awake at night."

Becker withdraws from Stuttgart classic

ATP Tour computer.

Tiriac said Becker is being treated by Dr. Hans-Wilhelm Mueller-Wohlfarth. He said Becker had been drained after the heat of the Australian summer.

"He played seven tough matches in Australia, then went to play Davis Cup without time to regenerate," Tiriac said.

"He made the Davis Cup his priority this time and wanted to play no matter what."

Becker, who guided Germany to Davis Cup championships in 1988 and 1989, skipped the competition last year, saying he wanted to concentrate on gaining the No. 1 ranking. But he rejoined the team this year, and played two tough singles and a doubles match in leading Germany to a narrow victory over Italy earlier this month.

Tiriac said Becker was set on regaining the No. 1 spot but would not risk a more serious injury.

"His future is not in the computer," Tiriac said. "His future is to play good tennis, and I'll bet you anything that he will be No. 1 again."

In Brussels, Becker criticised the ATP Tour for forcing him into too many events to protect his ranking. He accepted a wild-card entry in Brussels to try to stay atop the rankings.



Boris Becker

Horoscope not received

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



2 seeded players fall in Slims of Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma (Agencies) — Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands and American Linda Harvey-Wild both sent seeded players packing in the first round of the \$150,000 Virginia Slims of Oklahoma Tennis Tournament.

Although Portugal have won four of the five matches between the two, none was by more than two goals. And Malta can look back proudly to March 1987 when they drew 2-2 in Funchal.

The home side will be without midfielder Rui Barros, who has tendinitis and is replaced by Jorge Cadete.

The away side will be without

midfielder Rui Barros, who has

tendinitis and is replaced by Jorge

Cadete.

Portuguese spirits will also be lifted by playing at the Antas Stadium, scene of their stirring 1-0 victory over the Netherlands last October.

The home side will be without

midfielder Rui Barros, who has

tendinitis and is replaced by Jorge

Cadete.

The away side will be without

midfielder Rui Barros, who has

tendinitis and is replaced by Jorge

Cadete.

The tournament's top names,

including Ivan Lendl, Pete Sampras, Andre Gomez and Brad Gilbert, all received first-round

byes and did not play Monday.

Krishnan, ranked 85th in the

world, had expected to play Milan

and the tiebreak in the first set.

don't want to do it."

Harvey-Wild said she pays little attention to seedings. "Seedings aren't too important. They are based on what players have done in the past, not what they are doing when they play you," Harvey-Wild said.

Two other seeds had smoother sailing.

Second seed Conchita Martinez of Spain advanced 6-2 6-0 over American Mary Lou Daniels, and third-seeded Amy Frazier beat fellow-American Peanut Louise Harper 6-4 7-6.

Top seed Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia, this year's Australian Open runner-up, will play her opening match on Tuesday against American Carrie Cunningham.

Meanwhile Jennifer Capriati has entered the \$50,000 Virginia Slims of Florida in what will mark the one-year anniversary of her professional debut at the 1990 Virginia Slims.

JUMBLE.

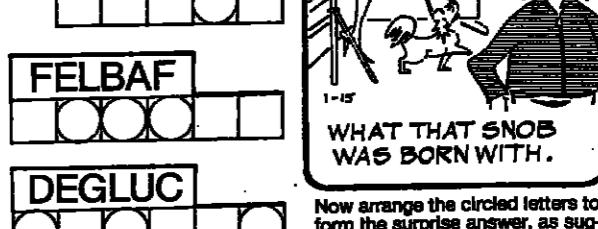
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

STEAE

INGAR

FELBAF

DEGLUC



ANSWER: HER

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's | Jumble: SIEGE ROBIN UNPACK MARAUD

Answer: When a woman really begins to "count" on a man --- HIS "NUMBER" IS UP

THE Daily Crossword

by Fran Ragus



Economy

Romania edges towards open market system with currency auction

BUCHAREST (R) — Romania's leu currency plunged to a black market rate of 200 to the dollar Monday as the national bank judged the country closer to a Western-style economic system by holding its first currency auction.

"It is a first bold step on the long road towards achieving full and real convertibility of the leu," Romanian Bank for Foreign Trade senior dealer Catalin Moisuc said.

The Bank for Foreign Trade was among six Romanian banks authorised to take part in the auction, the first after four decades of inflated communist-style fixed exchange rates.

The National Bank, which supervised the auction, will soon be transformed into a Western-style central bank as part of the nation's market reforms.

Bulgaria sets new leva exchange rate

SOFIA (AP) — The government established a new currency exchange rate almost twice the black-market dollar rate, news reports said Tuesday.

The decision setting an exchange of 28.25 Bulgarian leva to the dollar is expected to bring into government coffers some of the estimated \$1 billion citizens hold privately and underpin black-market dealing.

Bulgaria, reeling from its worst economic crisis, has suspended payments on its \$11 billion foreign debt because of a lack of hard currency reserves.

Previously, the official dollar rate for the Bulgarian currency was 7-1, but as late as Monday it was trading on the street at as much as 16-1.

The new rate is aimed at pre-

"We expect the rate to undergo a see-saw fluctuation over the next weeks, as demand for hard currency is very high and each bank keeps its offer and operations secret," Moisuc said.

The leu's auction rate put the currency at one-sixth its official rate of 35 levi to the dollar. New auctions will be held daily to provide an inter-bank currency rate.

Each new rate will be published alongside the official rate, which has been in effect since last November.

The Bank for Foreign Trade was joined in the auction by the Commercial Bank, the Bank for Development, the Agro Bank, Mind Bank (bank for small industries and free initiative) and Bank Coop (the bank for cooperative credits).

Entering the economy from switching to increased use of the U.S. dollar and other foreign currencies instead of Bulgaria's.

The new rate is one of a series of measures to reform the economy, loosen government control of the financial system and make the currency convertible.

The government recently gave banks permission to begin trading in Western currencies, and they primarily have been buying up dollars individuals are keeping privately.

On Feb. 1, Bulgaria drastically raised state-controlled prices in keeping with recommendations from the International Monetary Fund, from which it hopes to receive \$380 million in aid this year.

Gulf war outcome may cause abrupt decline in oil profit

WASHINGTON (AP) — High crude oil prices brought windfall profits to the major American oil companies in the last three months of 1990, but the government says the profits picture may change abruptly if crude prices decline after the Gulf war.

The Energy Department has reported that 18 major oil companies earned more than \$7 billion in the fourth quarter of last year, up 77 per cent from a year earlier because of higher crude prices.

Income from oil production — both foreign and domestic — jumped even more, by about 150 per cent, but some of that increase was offset by declining profits in refining and chemical production activities, the government said.

Nevertheless, Energy Department officials said they could find no evidence of price gouging on the part of oil companies and warned that future fluctuations in oil prices could make the profit gains only temporary.

The report by the Energy Information Administration said

the oil companies' "greatest gains in profitability were directly tied" to the sharp increases in crude oil prices that occurred in the months after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

According to figures, the 11 major U.S. oil companies that reported a breakdown in earnings had profit of nearly \$5 billion from oil and gas production alone, about a 150 per cent increase over the same three months of 1989.

For major petroleum companies ... income from U.S. oil and gas production nearly tripled while their income from foreign oil and gas production more than doubled," the report said.

The report noted that while oil prices peaked at more than \$10 a 12-gallon barrel in mid-October, prices have been declining in recent months and could decline sharply once fighting stops in the Gulf war because of a current supply glut.

"If that is true, the sharp increase in oil and gas profitability ... will be disastrous," the agency said.

Turkish Airlines seeks plane delivery delay

ISTANBUL (R) — State-run Turkish Airlines is seeking a delay in deliveries of an Airbus 310 and two medium-haul Boeing 737-400 planes due to a sharp decline in air traffic caused by the Gulf war, an airline official said.

The Airbus, the last of 14 aircraft ordered in 1984, was scheduled to be delivered in June.

Delivery of the first Boeing 737 by the U.S. Boeing Company was due before March and the second one in June. They are both part of a 10-aircraft lease agreed last year with deliveries extending until 1995.

In 1989, the airline made a profit of around \$1.5 million compared to losses of around \$5.2 million in 1988.

Calvin Kent, the agency's administrator, said no evidence of nationwide price gouging was found and that for the entire year of 1990 oil industry profits were not unusually high when considered on the basis of return on equity.

"You had the results that you would expect with the rise in crude prices," said Kent.

Edwin Rothschild, an energy expert for Public Citizen, a Washington-based consumer group, said the findings were "a clear indication that ... unanticipated windfalls were made" by the oil companies because of the Gulf crisis.

"And consumers were taken for a ride. Their pockets were lifted," Rothschild said.

The government's findings for the last three months of 1990 were largely expected since they reflected individual earning reports disclosed separately by most of the major oil companies last month. The government report did not break down earnings by individual companies.

U.S. firms expand overseas investments

NEW YORK (R) — American manufacturers boosted overseas investment sharply in 1990, launching 271 projects, 25 per cent more than the previous year, a business group said.

"The 1990 clearly opened with a big bang in foreign investment," said Jim Greene, a specialist in global business trends at the Conference Board, a New York business group.

"Many of these projects, particularly new plants in Europe aimed at world markets, are betting heavily on an expanding open trade system," he said.

The business group said Europe was the leading site for the investments, attracting 67 per cent of all the projects — or a total of 167. Eastern Europe, excluding former East Germany, won 20 projects.

Britain, France and Germany accounted for the bulk of all project sites in Europe, while Bulgaria and Poland attracted U.S. manufacturing investments for the first time.

The Soviet Union won seven projects, Hungary five and Czechoslovakia four. Former East Germany also attracted four investments.

Asia accounted for only 20 per cent of all investment, but was up a strong 66 per cent from the previous year with 53 projects.

Seven projects were targeted for China, six for Singapore, while Australia won 15 projects.

Canada also got 26 projects.

The group said Du Pont, General Motors Corp., CPC International Inc., Chrysler Corp. and General Electric Co. accounted for 37 separate investments.

"I have bad dreams about what could happen next," said Sarah

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1991 7

Jordanian businesses reel from Gulf war

AMMAN (R) — The Gulf war is squeezing Jordan's fragile economy, restaurants are empty and importers warn of supplies dwindling drastically.

Exports, imports and other services have been hit by high insurance costs and allied inspection of ships heading for the country's only port at Aqaba on the Red Sea.

Vessels are stopped and searched to prevent any breach of the U.N. embargo on Iraq. Jordan says it is complying with sanctions against its neighbour, previously its biggest export market, at huge cost to itself.

Importers say suppliers are demanding full payment in advance for goods compared with 20 per cent before the crisis, making it almost impossible to bring in supplies from abroad.

Amman shopkeepers say stocks of imported goods on which the country depends heavily are running low and warn of a crisis looming.

Elias Bulos, manager of Khalaf Supermarket, a major importer and distributor of foreign goods to shops and hotels, said: "We cannot import anything any more because of high war transport and insurance costs. Things are becoming very difficult. Our imported stocks are running out and we cannot substitute them."

He said the supermarket was

already low on canned food, butter, pastas, sausages, candles, cereals, peas, beans and veal.

They had already run out of chocolate, biscuits and cheese.

Stocks might last for a few more weeks, he said, but the delicatessen supplies had already run out. Other importers said stocks of alcohol were running low.

Bulos said daily sales had dropped about 40 per cent, with people buying only essentials.

"I used to have big daily orders from restaurants and hotels. Now the orders come in monthly," he said. "Business has never been this bad in my lifetime."

Exports to countries other than Jordan, which sympathises with Iraq while condemning its August invasion of Kuwait, has lost up to \$300 million monthly if the crisis continues.

Millions of dollars in overseas aid has been promised but is only starting to arrive now. The United States has said it is reviewing future aid to the Kingdom.

Restaurants are suffering along other sectors.

"Business has dropped by 80 per cent since the war began," said Hassan Rabbah, owner of the popular Leonardo Da Vinci restaurant. "Those coming are mainly foreign journalists. It is really bad. We can hardly pay our expenses and costs. We're not breaking even, we're losing."

The plush Peking Chinese Restaurant, which normally has up to 100 people a night, is lucky to fill even one table now. Five Chinese cooks left after the war broke out on Jan. 17.

"Sometimes I'm surprised when people show up. But we understand ... we're not on a honeymoon, we're in the middle of a war," owner Mosalem Shammout said.

Expatriate exodus, leaks delay Qatar's gas project

stability is achieved in the region, the sources said.

Asked about the leaks, Qatar General Petroleum Corporation (QGPC) sources denied there were any at the North Field.

"The construction of platforms and 16 wells at the field are ready, but the reservoir is still not perforated," a petroleum engineer who visited the field recently said.

"Hydrogen sulphide, probably from a separate shallow field, is leaking into the well casings and sometimes bubbles up to the surface from the seabed," he said. "They (Qataris) probably want to find where it is coming from before starting production."

The Gulf war has dampened Qatar's hopes of finding customers for its natural gas as buyers are unlikely to commit themselves to multi-billion dollar long-term agreements until political

sources.

Another oil industry sources said some sub-contractors working at the field had pulled their Western experts out after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August.

Qatar, a small oil producer in the Gulf relying on the North Field gas to see its economy through the next century as its oil wells dry sometime in the next 40 years.

The first phase of the North Field development will produce around 800 million cubic feet (22 million cubic metre) of gas per day for existing power plants and industries in Qatar, which now run on diminishing associated gas produced from oil fields.

Qatar plans to utilise the gas in a number of new industrial projects such as an aluminium smelter, and petrochemical plants in joint-ventures with Western concerns.

IRA bombs compound woes of British tourism industry

LONDON (R) — A war, a recession, a weak dollar and now guerrilla bombs — the spring is likely to be disastrous for Britain's tourism industry, already hard hit by a worldwide slump in air travel.

The threat of terrorist attacks related to the Gulf war has scared away many tourists, forcing airlines and travel companies to cut prices drastically.

But the tourism industry fears bomb attacks by the Irish Republican Army (IRA) this week at two London railway stations will deter even more potential visitors.

"It will further damage the perception of London, in the eyes of Americans particularly," said Keith Bettom, a spokesman for the Association of British Travel Agents.

Dale, head of the British Incoming Tour Operators Association, said the recession in Britain and the United States had

seriously reduced business travel. Traffic at London's Gatwick and Heathrow airports has fallen by more than 20 per cent and trans-Atlantic flights are less than half full.

Many U.S. and Japanese visitors, the mainstay of London's luxury tourist market, are staying at home. Their absence is felt by hotels, theatres and taxi drivers alike.

The weakness of the dollar, which is sapping American spending power abroad, is also deterring visitors.

But tourists could be even more wary if Monday's bomb explosions herald the start of a campaign of random attacks by the IRA.

"It will make some people think twice about coming here if it becomes a regular thing — bombs every week in public places in London," said Bettom.

Budget

ANNOUNCEMENT

TO ALL JOURNALISTS, TV REPORTERS

BUDGET RENT A CAR INTERNATIONAL STARTS TO OPERATE ITS VEHICLES TO IRAQ WITH DRIVER, AT GUARANTEED COMPETITIVE, INCLUSIVE RATES. NEW, LARGE COMFORTABLE CARS (4 WHEEL DRIVE, STATION WAGON, SALOON CARS).

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CALL :
TEL : 698131 GABRIELA

TO DAY

A

MIAMI CONNECTION

NIJOM

CONCORD

RAINBOW

MAD MAX Part II

PHILADELPHIA

L.A. BOUNTY

PLAZA

SUMMER SCHOOL

Cinema Tel: 625155

Cinema Tel: 634144

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 677420

Performances: Show: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 65571

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 699238

Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15

NOW AT PHILADELPHIA INT'L HOTEL

Al-Rudha Press Lounge

Drinks and snacks at reduced prices.

Al-Livani Dining Room

Italian Lunch & Dinner Buffet on Thursday Feb. 21st

NEW ... NEW ... NEW

Daily Special Lunch & Dinner at "The Ranch" Steakhouse at JD 5.000

الرعدة للصحافة
The Philadelphia INTERNATIONAL HOTEL MANAGEMENT LTD

Tel: 663100, Fax: 665160, Amman - Jordan

Moscow facing biggest crime wave for decades — minister

MOSCOW (R) — Interior Minister Boris Pugo said on Tuesday the Soviet Union faced the biggest crime wave since World War II, with violence, organised crime and fraud thriving on the country's economic decline.

Pugo, a hardliner appointed late last year to curb major crime and ethnic conflicts, said the number of crimes registered in 1980 rose by 13 per cent against the previous year.

"What is particularly worrying is the overall rise, reaching the highest level since the war... and the aggressiveness of armed elements," he told a news conference.

"We are talking all necessary measures but no substantial turn in the trend is yet visible."

Official statistics portrayed crime as worst in republics currently pressing for their independence from Moscow. The highest growth 43.9 per cent, was in the southern Republic of Armenia, while Estonia registered 24.4 per cent, Lithuania 18.6 per cent, and Latvia 16.9 per cent.

Drug offences rose by 24 per cent over 1980, cases of serious fraud and misuse of state property by 19.9 per cent.

Pugo defended a decision to set up joint patrols including soldiers and police to check street crime.

He said the patrols, usually conducted by a police officer, a military officer and two soldiers, had helped fight crime, but could not produce results on their own.

"We have got to restore faith between the people and the police, so that they believe in us and help us," Pugo said.

The patrols are now present on the streets of nine out of 15 republics. The country's Parliamentary Supervisory Committee ruled Friday there were substantial flaws in Gorbachev's decree setting up the patrols.

Pugo denied suggestions the central Interior Ministry was trying to dictate to republican ministries, adding that future legislation should set out clearly the relationship between Moscow and the republics.

Ms. Dapkus said more than 300 people were injured in the attack, with Kancevicius and two other people among the most seriously hurt. The other two are now out of danger, she said.

Specific crimes are dealt with by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and others left to constituent states. "Perhaps when the future is mapped out certain crimes, in the same way, will be allotted to a central ministry or other service."

Meanwhile, a 50-year-old man was reported to have died Monday on gunshot wounds suffered in the Jan. 13 Soviet military crackdown in Lithuania, bringing the death toll from recent violence in the Baltics to 22.

Vytautas Kancevicius, a father of two, died in a hospital in the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius, according to the independent Baltfax News Agency.

He suffered gunshot wounds in the stomach and intestines when the Lithuanian Broadcast Centre was stormed by Soviet troops last month, said Rita Dapkus, a spokeswoman for the republic's legislature, quoting the Health Ministry.

Ms. Dapkus said more than 300 people were injured in the attack, with Kancevicius and two other people among the most seriously hurt. The other two are now out of danger, she said.

1st woman heads U.N. refugee body

GENEVA (R) — Sadako Ogata, a Japanese university professor, took office as head of the United Nations agency overseeing 15 million refugees worldwide.

Ogata 63, was elected U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) by the world body's General Assembly in December for three years. She is the first woman to hold the post.

A professor of international relations at Tokyo's Sophia University, she replaces Thorvald

Stoltenberg who resigned in November to become foreign minister of Norway.

Addressing staff, Ogata said the refugee issue should be put to countries as a "test of their commitment to human rights."

"A preventive strategy is required to ensure that people are able to live peacefully and productively in their own countries," she added.

Ogata's career has included

posts as Japan's permanent representative to the U.N., head of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Executive Board and Japanese representative at the U.N. Human Rights Commission.

Japan, already the second biggest contributor to UNHCR after the United States, is expected to raise its contributions to refugee relief following Ogata's appointment.

On Monday senior officials of the movements led by Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi signed a truce on Jan. 29 urging supporters to end the violence that has killed more than 4,000 people in Natal and around Johannesburg in five years.

"But the accord has been threatened by continuing gun and spear battles. Seventeen Inkatha supporters were killed in a bus ambush on Feb. 10 near the Natal capital, Pietermaritzburg.

Meeting for the first time in 28 years, ANC Deputy President Nelson Mandela and Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi signed a truce on Jan. 29 urging supporters to end the violence that has killed more than 4,000 people in Natal and around Johannesburg in five years.

"The rebels accused Reginaldo, personnel manager of the Lapanday Development Corporation, which runs a banana plantation in Davao, of 'labour despotism,' blaming him for the lay-off of about 90 plantation workers since 1988.

Reginaldo was on his way home in the southern city of Davao Monday night when four gunmen sprayed his car with bullets, killing Reginaldo and wounding his bodyguard, his driver and his 14-year-old son.

Company executive Aurelio Reginaldo was on his way home in the southern city of Davao Monday night when four gunmen sprayed his car with bullets, killing Reginaldo and wounding his bodyguard, his driver and his 14-year-old son.

Several hundred NPA rebels took part in the dawn attack in Cagwait but the estimated 80 soldiers manning the outpost held their ground until reinforcements came the following day, police spokesman Colonel Jorgo Ludo visto said in a telephone interview.

Police said 10 people were killed and 16 wounded Monday when armed men opened fire and lobbed two grenades at a minibus in the central province of Camarines Norte.

All the victims were civilian passengers. Police said they did not know, the motive for the attack.

Police said rebel ground fire damaged a helicopter carrying regional commander Colonel Manuel Salimbangon and his staff, who had flown to the area to supervise the counter-attack.

Salimbangon was unhurt but a helicopter gunner was wounded.

Meanwhile a leading senator said Tuesday the Philippines has become a favourite destination for terrorist groups because of its lax immigration rules.

"Our special concern is that the Philippines seems to be a favourite of terrorist group, some coming in as students," said Leticia Ramos-Shahani, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"It all boils down to the fact that we are lax in screening foreigners who enter the country," Shahani quoted Immigration

Commissioner Andrea Domingo as saying the Philippines was the most lax member of the Association of South East Asian Nations in screening aliens.

The other members are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and Brunei.

Tensions between ethnic Turks, Bulgarians split southern town

SOFIA (AP) — Municipal authorities have warned they would call in police if needed to end an explosive school dispute in the southern town of Kardzhali between ethnic Turks and Bulgarians.

The Bulgarian News Agency (BTA) reported that social tension in the city, 250 kilometres southeast of Sofia, reached "critical limits" over the issue of Turkish-language education.

"Until now there have been no clashes, but the situation is really tense," police Major Christo

Dimitrov said in a telephone interview from Kardzhali.

Kardzhali's approximately 80,000 people are divided about evenly between ethnic Turks and ethnic Bulgarians.

About 500 Bulgarians opposed to having Turkish taught in elementary school gathered Monday in the town square. Municipal officials agreed to meet a delegation to hear their complaints.

The conflict began on Feb. 4, when thousands of ethnic Turkish schoolchildren boycotted classes to press demands for the the

Turkish language to be included in the curriculum.

Many continued to stay away from classes Monday, some to back demands for more teaching of Turkish, others out of fear of harm from Bulgarian children and their parents.

"They do not let our children in schools. There are even some attempts to provoke clashes," said Refic Adem, 33, mother of two Turkish children. "I tell my children to go straight home and not answer any provocation."

On Monday senior officials of the movements led by Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi signed a truce on Jan. 29 urging supporters to end the violence that has killed more than 4,000 people in Natal and around Johannesburg in five years.

"Not just this government, but all the governments in the past 30 years are responsible," Health Minister Dr. Carlos Vidal said Monday.

The growing epidemic has aroused fears in Latin America and elsewhere in the world that the disease could be spread by Peruvian travellers or from any of Peru's diverse food exports ranging from fish to mangoes.

On Wednesday, European Community (EC) officials in Brussels are expected to decide which Peruvian foods can be safely imported. The ruling could reportedly affect up to \$700 million in export earnings for Peru.

Vidal said the only foods with a cholera contamination risk are uncooked seafood and fresh strawberries. He said these products can be made safe through proper cleaning and preparation.

Vidal said the epidemic's underlying cause is the lack of basic sewage and drinking water systems. In many poor urban neighbourhoods those systems are substandard or do not exist. Water is delivered in trucks with dirty tanks or stored in cisterns that are not routinely disinfected, he said.

In Lima, a serious health hazard has been caused by leaky sewage pipes that have contaminated drinking water conduits. Many street vendors sell food and snacks without access to running water and basic hygienic services.

Cholera, spread in feces-contaminated water and food, affects the intestines, causing diarrhea and severe fluid loss. It can be fatal if not treated.

Vidal said the government has neglected its responsibility for providing basic services to ensure the public health.

The fact that a staff member in the (presidential) Blue House was arrested in connection with the incident is due to my carelessness and I apologize to the people for this," Roh said.

Many Khmer Rouge refugees disappear, others go to U.N. camps

By Peter Eng
The Associated Press

SITE 8 REFUGEE CAMP, Thailand — The distant bamboo huts once seen from the dirt road are gone, and with them thousands of refugees. Western relief workers had tried for a decade to reach.

About 60,000 to 100,000 civilians controlled by Khmer Rouge guerrillas lived in "hidden camps" like Khao Din, once nestled at the base of a mountain near Site 8, a Khmer Rouge camp open to U.N. officials.

There were reports of many human rights violations in the hidden camps and Western aid officials were not allowed into them, despite repeated appeals.

Khao Din and all the other hidden camps were moved from Thailand just across the border into western Cambodia by mid-1980, apparently on orders of Thai authorities. No international outcry resulted.

"Nobody seemed to be interested," said Jean-Jacques Freard, head of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Thailand. "It was as if these people never existed."

"Most of them were brought to very unhealthy areas and thousands have tried to get back to Thailand for medical help," he said. "Some of those with malaria are in very bad shape, because they are too far away or were prevented from coming. Some died on the way."

Freard quoted some refugees as saying the Communist guerrillas made them leave close relatives behind, to ensure their return, when they went to the U.N. camps for treatment.

Many former residents of the hidden camps, however, have been allowed to resettle in U.N.-aided Khmer Rouge camps like Site 8, Site K and O'Trao.

Other Cambodians arrive from

other parts of the country, fleeing government conscription or seeking relatives. About 63,000 refugees now live in U.N.-aided Khmer Rouge camps, where they receive food, medical care and education.

Thousands of other civilians in

Khmer Rouge zones visit the camps for medical treatment, to see relatives or to put their children in school.

In rural areas controlled by non-Communist guerrillas, rebel leaders have embarked on a U.S.-financed development programme, building village schools, hospitals and supplying new machinery to farmers.

A Western diplomat said, on condition of anonymity, that the mentality behind the hidden Khmer Rouge camps was slowly eroding, mostly through efforts of the U.N. Border Relief Operation (UNBRO).

"The Khmer Rouge want education," he said. "They even steal UNBRO textbooks. Before, they didn't want to touch anything. They know they cannot be isolated, cannot live by themselves."

The diplomat said the Khmer Rouge brought some to Thailand by force, but most were people who had been in Khmer Rouge areas for years and were not as abused as others by the regime.

After the Vietnamese invasion, they were marked as Khmer Rouge supporters.

According to the diplomat, most of the people "came because they were alternated by other groups. They couldn't stay in their villages and they couldn't go to the non-Communists because the non-Communists wouldn't receive them."

Some of the malaria patients, he said, were Cambodians who could reach U.N. camps for the first time because the guerrillas had expanded their territory. He said some people were trucked up to 50 kilometres away by arrangement with Thai authorities.

Young victims of malaria filled the hospital during a recent visit to Site 8, on the southern stretch of the Thai-Cambodian border.

Pei Ek, 5, lay still on a bamboo-slat bed, an intravenous tube in his arm, struggling to chew a biscuit. His father, a food porter for the Khmer Rouge, carried the boy through the jungle for several days after the guerrillas granted his request for treatment at Site 8.

Khmer Rouge guerrillas have seized areas with rich soil, timber, and gem and gold mines, the Western diplomat said, but it is unclear what share of those resources are available to civilians.

He said security was not a major

concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

he largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.

Concern because battle lines are well beyond the refugee settlements.

the largest reported concentration of people is at Anlong Veng, a collection of villages that is opposite O'Trao and just over a mountain from Site 8.